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-BY THE-

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HOUSTON, TEXAS, SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 1902.

32 PAGES TODAY.

SECRETARY SHAW ON THE TARIFF.

At the opening of the campaign in Vermont Sec-
retary Shaw delivered a speech in which he spoke about
the tariff. Now the Vermonters are a shrewd people
and by no means so green as their Green mountains.
Many of the wiser folk among them, however, imbed
the majority may be with the idea of the righteousness
of the protective policy, must have shaken their heads
at the secretary's statements and spoken his name
with a double meaning.In 1882, Mr. Shaw stated, the republican party ap-
pointed a commission to consider the tariff question,
and "in obedience to its suggestions" the tariff was re-
vised in 1883. Yet, he says, the people were not
satisfied. Small wonder the people were not satisfied.
So far from following the commission's recommendation
of a general reduction of protective duties, con-
gress increased them. Mr. Shaw is mixed up in facts.Mr. Shaw insists that this is no time to talk about
revising the tariff, and seems to make any "concession
to democratic clamor." In this he is in line with the
republican campaign book. But the clamor for tariff
revision is not confined to the democrats. In Min-
nesota, Wisconsin and Michigan the stalwart republic-
ans are extremely urgent for tariff reform. Repre-
sentative Tawney of Minnesota has had to pledge him-
self to work for a reduction of duties with a specific
promise as to the rates on lumber. Such differences
necessarily weaken the republicans in this age of the
telegraph and the daily newspaper. The republican
voters in different parts of the country are alienated
by conflicting promises on the part of republican
leaders.

TWO CHINESE MINISTERS.

Now comes the semi-official announcement that the
retiring Chinese minister, the genial and interrogatory
Wu Ting-fang, will train his successor, Liang Cheng,
six months at Peking before his departure for Wash-
ington. When it is considered that a Chinaman who
never wears a shirt at home, nor has seen one before,
can wash a shirt twenty-four hours after landing at
"Frisco" better than the average washerwoman who has
been in the business for years, this diplomatic novitiate
to which Mr. Cheng is being subjected looks like time
wasted. It can't be possible that Mr. Wu is going to
spend all that time telling him what to do. It must be
that he will devote the entire six months to telling
him what not to do. The childlike and bland Wu will
doubtless advise his pupil that it is not desirable to
open acquaintance with a man by asking him how much
he makes a week, or with a lady by asking her if she
loves her husband. He will probably likewise warn
him against innocently asking members of the diplo-
matic service how many lies they tell, and young ladies
from Boston whether they really always think in
words of fourteen syllables.Liang Cheng has a hard task before him. He
will be compared and contrasted with Mr. Wu, and his
light must perforce be bright indeed to shine against
the background illuminated by the brilliant retreating
form of his predecessor."For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain
the heathen Chinese is peculiar," as Bret Harte has
informed us, but the diplomatist Chinaman, if Wu is
a fair specimen, out-herods Herod or rather out-
Chinese the Chinese. It remains to be seen whether
Liang Cheng is one of the same sort. Wu was a
wonder.

MR. JUSTICE GRAY AND MR. JUSTICE HOLMES.

The retirement of Mr. Justice Horace Gray from the
supreme court of the United States and the appoint-
ment of Oliver Wendell Holmes, chief justice of the
State supreme court of Massachusetts, are public
events of importance.The supreme court of the United States is perhaps
the greatest tribunal of justice in the world and, while
the people have often been dissatisfied with its de-
cisions of great cases and competent critics have more
than once sharply disputed its opinions, turning against
the court the effective battery of the dissenting
opinions of its own members, on the whole the court is
a court of great ability, with a long record of judicial
distinction, impartiality, integrity, learning and legal
acumen. It is a court of which Americans are proud.Mr. Justice Gray, although it was his vote that
made a majority in the income tax and insular cases,
was, take him for all in all, a good judge. His mind
leaned towards centralism in government, which is a
vicious leaning in a Federal judge. But he was con-
scientious and painstaking, learned in the law, a
competent, although not a great judge.The new justice, Oliver Wendell Holmes, awakens
at once a prejudice in his favor among all Americans
as soon as they hear his name. His famous father
was one of the brightest stars of American literature
and his memory is loved wherever the English
language is spoken. The younger Holmes, who isnow 61 years old, is a Harvard man. He was appointed
to the Massachusetts supreme court at the age of 41,
and became chief justice at 48. He is an able lawyer
and has had years of judicial experience. Because of
his name and his record as a lawyer and as a judge, it
may be safely said that the president could not have
made a better choice for one of the highest offices
within his gift.

COTTON GIN STATISTICS.

The Post publishes today an article from a Brazos
bottom cotton planter urging spinners to refuse in-
formation to agents of the census bureau, who will
hereafter undertake to secure statistics of the actual
production of cotton by returns from the gins through-
out the cotton belt.The correspondent's view is sadly illogical, and
his advice to refuse the information will, if followed,
defeat a most important government enterprise which
can not fail to benefit the farmer more than anyone
else.The growing crop is always a subject of guessing,
and always will be. The spinner gathers the most re-
liable information he can, because he must know as
nearly as possible the probable output. Bankers and
merchants likewise seek the most reliable infor-
mation, because the crop furnishes the basis of credits
and sales. These interests will find out as best they
can what the crop is doing from time to time and
what it has finally done.All these commercial interests hope for the biggest
crop. They are not concerned about the price, be-
yond learning what a fair price will be in view of
supply and demand. Their chief concern is for a big
crop. The spinners especially want a big crop. Now,
it is a well known rule of evidence that a man seeks
proof of what he wants to be the fact. Unconsciously,
the most deliberate mind will give most weight to the
evidence which favors his opinion or his desire. Grant
him perfectly honest, and the cotton spinner will un-
wittingly overestimate the crop. Take him as he is,
under the commercial code of morals, and he may be
depended upon to greatly magnify it.It is only a few years since Mr. Henry Neill of
New Orleans and Liverpool was accustomed to issue
periodical crop estimates that invariably influenced the
trade. With one or two exceptions he always over-
estimated the crop. He never underestimated it. He
was furnishing information to the spinners who main-
tained his bureau, and his bias was unconsciously in
their favor. During the years of his fame as a cotton
statistician Mr. Neill cost the cotton farmers untold
millions of dollars. It was a common thing for one
of his circulars to carry the market off a dollar a bale.Mr. Neill flourished until he overreached himself
and nothing was more effective in destroying his in-
fluence by exhibiting his errors than the monthly and
weekly bulletins of the weather and crop bureau of
the United States department of agriculture. These
bulletins have proved their value to the trade, by giv-
ing it correct information, and to the farmers by pre-
venting bearish overstatements. The cost of main-
taining the bureau is returned to the farmers many
times over each year. This example of accurate in-
formation is certainly encouraging to the idea of gin
statistics.It must be remembered that there is a commercial
crop and an agricultural crop—the crop marketed and
the crop produced. That is, there is always a certain
amount of cotton carried over which goes into the
total that is marketed, and by so much swells the
apparent yield. The reports of movement by rail and
otherwise reflect the commercial crop, which, including
the cotton held over, is necessarily greater than the
agricultural crop or the actual yield.Gin reports will reflect the actual yield, and must
inevitably indicate a smaller output than marketing
may develop. For instance, the crop of 1901 has been
estimated by receipts and other evidence at 10,500,000
bales or more. The census gin report made up in
May last and published in The Post of June 30 showed
a total of 9,944,945, or approximately 555,000 bales
less. Here is the proof of the pudding which ought to
satisfy the most exacting.In short, every commercial interest tends to ex-
aggerate the crop. In the absence of accurate in-
formation the spinner will make estimates and fix
prices on his guesses, and his guesses will always be
larger than the truth, because it is to his interest to
guess that way. Accurate information will necessarily
favor the farmer. Moreover, it will enable him to
know precisely the supply—the demand he can guess
as well as the spinner—and he can govern his sales
accordingly.The farmer has all to gain and nothing to lose by
accurate statistics, and the gin reports, if complete,
will furnish the information to the fraction of a bale.HICKETTER, when a bold, bad highwayman plants a gun
at you and says: "Hands up!" you should elevate your
grubstake and single tactically while the muscle of a
forty-four is boring into your Adam's apple. The whole
thing is liable to be "just a joke," and by giggling as di-
rected you will show that you are the possessor of a fine
sense of humor.A PERSON can go from Houston to Chicago very cheaply
these days; but why on earth anybody should wish to do
it is a puzzle.SANTOS DUMONT has left New York in a huff because
Americans would not back his schemes. If Santos desires
money with which to navigate the air he would marry an
heiress, then he could fly high.PRINCE GUEN likes this country so well that if it wasn't
for the exclusion act it is thought that he would start a
laundry and settle down.THAT Chicago man who is trying to discover what color
is preferred by mosquitoes is working on an easy propo-
sition. What they admire most is a deep blood red.IF OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES knows whether he is an im-
perialist or an anti, he is succeeding very nicely in keeping
that knowledge to himself.THE jewels in the queen's crown will be sold and re-
placed by paste. If Ed is hard up for paste he can just take
his dish and run into the nearest newspaper office.NEWS NOTE: At an early hour this morning King Ed-
ward was seen to remove the crown long enough to wipe the
perspiration from his bald spot.IT is reported that Mr. Quay of Pennsylvania recently
scalded his feet at Atlantic City. It is just possible that the
accident happened while he was washing them.MR. BRYAN is right; the distribution of patronage isn't
a pleasure. It is like having thirteen guests to dinner when
there is only enough dinner for six.

"The Gentleman Outlaw."

Trinity, Texas, August 15.—I desire to thank you for the
courageous stand you have taken in behalf of law and order,
and against the "pistol tories." Your editorial, "The Gen-
tleman Outlaw," was timely and to the point, and was as
applicable as it was true. The editorial should be indexed
by every law-abiding citizen of the State. S. H. PAX.

THE REPUBLICAN TEXT BOOK.

Washington, August 15.—(Special Correspondence.)—
It will not be necessary for the democratic congressional
committee to prepare a campaign book this year, if the
managers will only take time to use the document already
prepared by the republican committee. The campaign text
book issued by the republican congressional committee is
one of the most remarkable documents that was ever con-
tained between covers, and furnishes the most effective
kind of material for democratic consumption. It is a perfect
illustration of the fact that the gentleman who exclaimed,
"Oh, that mine enemy would write a book," knew just what
he was talking about and appreciated the value of printed
efforts to bolster up a waning cause.Great skill has been shown in the compilation of the
book that is to be used as a guide for the republican spell-
binders in the coming congressional campaign. It is an
artistic triumph in some respects. It may be read from
cover to cover without discovering that there are any questions
pending before the voters this year on which the republicans
are divided.Take the tariff and the protection of trusts, as an ex-
ample. Mr. Babcock, chairman of the congressional com-
mittee and author of the document now being circulated,
came home from Europe a year ago, fairly frothing in his
indignation over the discovery that the trust manufacturing
establishments of the United States were selling goods in
Europe at less cost than they were being sold to the Ameri-
can consumer. He threatened to bolt the republican party
unless the tariff on trust goods was reduced, and carried on
his campaign in Wisconsin on that issue. At the opening
of the last session of congress he introduced bills placing
the products of the steel trust on the free list. He was so
enthusiastic over the matter that he was feared by the
republican leaders in the house and was practically kept out
of their councils until he weakened in his attitude. Strange to
say, or perhaps it isn't strange after all, there is not a line
in the republican campaign text book about Mr. Bab-
cock's desire to have the tariff-nurtured trusts dealt with
by congress, not a word about the issue over which he has
been talking and writing for more than a year, the issue
that came near disrupting the party at several stages in the
session of the late congress. There is not a line in support
of Babcock's claim that the Dingley rates should be revised,
nor is there a word tending to support the contentions of the
high tariff men that the Dingley law is sacred and must
not be touched. Many pages of the book are devoted to the
tariff, but their purpose is to show that the country is
more prosperous now than it was in low tariff days. Of
course the tariff, according to republican arguments, is re-
sponsible for everything that has contributed to making
the people prosperous.During the last campaign, it will be remembered, the
republican orators waxed eloquent in telling of what the
party had done for Cuba, how its pledges had been redeemed
and the little island made prosperous and happy under the
wise and beneficent laws passed, or pledged, by the grand old
party. That all sounds pretty, and funny, when compared
with the record of the last congress. There is not a line in
the text book to show that Cuba is on the map. There is no
explanation of the failure of the republican congress to
carry out its pledges to grant reciprocal trade relations to
Cuba, a promise made by President McKinley and reiterated
by President Roosevelt. There is no hint in the pages of
the book that the republican party is split from Dan to
Beersheba on the Cuban question; that the sugar trust
prevented legislation in keeping the party's pledges, and
that the island which was recently rescued from Spanish
tyranny is now being used as a political football by
republican politicians. There is nothing to show that the
democrats of the house, aided by a few republicans, passed
a bill granting tariff reductions to Cuba and delivering a
staggering blow at the sugar trust by removing the dif-
ferential on refined sugar. There is nothing to show that
the republican senators who are controlled by the sugar
trust prevented any action in the senate on that question
and practically served notice on President Roosevelt that
there could be no legislation, even to the disruption of the
party, that promised to work any harm on the beloved sugar
trust. There is ominous silence in the text book concerning
the real facts about the Cuban reciprocity legislation. There
is a whole lot of extracts from President McKinley's speeches
in favor of general reciprocity, but nothing about the party's
refusal to deal with a specific case to which it was pledged
in its National platform.Mr. Babcock, editor of the republican campaign text
book has never posed as a humorist but he is evidently
trying to break into that class. On no other theory can
his literary efforts on the trust question be explained. The
republican orator who seeks to draw material for trust-
bouncing speeches from the text book will have to be mighty
careful or he will find himself in an awkward muddle. Mr.
Babcock has introduced some tables into his work that are
fearfully and wonderfully made, clearly calculated to deceive
and certain to mislead the orator who attempts to draw con-
clusions from them. For instance, there is a set of figures
showing that the number of men employed in a certain num-
ber of factories has increased within the last few years, and
that their wages have increased about 15 per cent. Then
the next table is fixed up to tickle the farmer. It is a
remarkable showing of what a fat ax will buy now com-
pared with four years ago. It is a pretty trap, and fur-
nishes a fine argument for the democrats. The table shows
that a fat ox of today will bring about three or four times
as much as it would four years ago, and that all of the
products of the farm have increased in value from 30 to 400
per cent. That is mighty fine for the farmer, but how does
the laboring man like it? By Mr. Babcock's own figures the
laboring man's wages have been increased but 15 per cent
while, by the same eminent authority, he is compelled to pay
from 30 to 400 per cent more for his meat, his vegetables
and his food stuffs from the farm than he did four years
ago. If Mr. Babcock were seeking to defeat the republican
candidates in the congressional canvass he could not summon
more effective and convincing figures to his aid. The
republican orator who attempts to address an audience of
laboring men with these figures at hand is apt to be asked
some very embarrassing questions. The only safe way for
the republican spellbinder will be to use one table when talk-
ing to the farmers and another when addressing laboring
men. The successful republican spellbinder at the close of
the campaign will be able to go on the stage and do a Dr.
Jekyll and Mr. Hyde stunt without any further practice.Several pages are devoted in Mr. Babcock's book to a
rehearsal of the laws that have been passed by republicans
in aid of the farmer and homesteaders. Nothing is said,
however, about the attitude of the party on the irrigation bill,
which means more to the people of the West than any
measure that has been passed since the free homestead law.
There is no record of the fact that the bill was passed by
democratic votes. There is no record of the fact that the
republican leaders in both the house and senate fought the
bill bitterly, sought by every means to prevent it being given
a hearing and then waged relentless and bitter war against
it on the floor of the house, and would have defeated it but
for the united support of the democrats.Much space is devoted to the republican party's work in
the Philippines, and the assertion is made that the great
old party is pledged to the civilization, education and en-
lightenment of the brown brothers in that far away archipelago.
No mention is made of the fact, however, that the leaders
of the same old party refused to do anything for the educa-
tion, civilization and enlightenment of the people of Oklahoma,
Arizona and New Mexico, more than a million of them, free-
born American citizens who were before congress pleading
for the redemption of pledges of the republican party plat-
forms that they should be admitted as States in the Union.
Every movement in this direction was strangled by the
republicans until the democrats forced action in the house
and passed the bill. It was fought virulently by republican
leaders, and was sidetracked in the senate, where it is still
pending, awaiting the final assimilation of the Filipinos and
the Cubans and the natives of Sulu and Guam. The recordis a remarkable one, and it is astonishing that the republican
text book contains no reference to it.There has been much discussion of the issues in the
coming campaign. The democratic orators who want to find
issues should take and carefully study the republican text
book, with a special view to what it has omitted concerning
questions which demand the attention, judgment and best
thought of the American people today.

EDITORIAL PICKUPS.

We look into the cradle and behold a male child. At the
six-shooter has gotten in its work again. A fine man
was killed when it might have been prevented had he not
other fellow been violating the State law. A stringent law
should be passed for the six-shooter carrier.—Yokum
Herald.A little white boy who was shipwrecked was washed
ashore on a watermelon on the Nanticoke river. If he had
been a colored boy he would have been drowned. He cannot
have been tempted to eat his life preserver.—Cortiana
Courier-Light.Hon. A. W. Terrell suggests that a monument be erected
to the memory of Hon. O. M. Roberts. It is a good move,
but the State should erect it. The State should also erect
a monument in honor of Sam Houston, and one in honor of
the Confederate soldiers.—Austin Tribune.The encampment of State colored troops at Houston this
year was a success, and the excellent discipline and good
conduct of the soldiers shows that such troops under com-
mand of capable white officers can make a valuable factor in
the volunteer State guard. But the white officers are in-
dispensable for more reasons than one.—Nacogdoches Sen-
tinel.age of so he is a noisy kid with half the buttons off his pants
and holes in his pockets, and at 15 he is a devil in a print
with an eye to mischief. At 25 he is the publisher of a
country newspaper, engaged in publishing the resources of
the country; at 32 emancipated and worn out; at 40 a corpse
in a cheap coffin and his only resources are a Washington
hand press, a few cases of type and a subscription book with
the names of 50 delinquent subscribers, who line up and
march past his coffin, saying: "He was a public spirited
fellow, but he just couldn't save anything."—Ganado Gazette.

TALKING ABOUT HOUSTON.

That Houston who chased a negro burglar twelve
blocks, clothed but in courage and a night shirt, is entitled
to a reward that will prove a balm to his wounded feet.—
Cortiana Sun.A Houston minister has suddenly discovered that there
is a large amount of cussedness in that city. Has it taken
him this long to find it out? The Journal has recently made
a similar discovery about Beaumont. Some folks are awfully
slow to catch on, though.—Port Arthur News.There is a difference of about \$6,000,000 in the taxable
values of Houston and Dallas; in other words, Houston is
richer than Dallas by that amount.—Weatherford Herald.The list of murders in and around the city of Houston
continues to grow. The number of hangings remains at 0.—
La Porte Chronicle.

Cotton Gin Statistics.

To the Editor of The Post.
Hearne, Texas, August 15.—You report in your issue of
the 15th instant that the cotton department of the permanent
census bureau at Washington, D. C., has a representative
agent in Texas for the purpose of ascertaining from the gin-
ners, both public and private, the accurate number of bales
of cotton ginned from time to time through the harvest sea-
son, and by or before the first of January following at least
90 to 95 per cent of the crop will have been picked, baled
and duly reported to headquarters, and the result imparted
to those for whose benefit this work is done in Europe and
America.It is also reported that an agent will be employed in every
county and paid \$3 for every twenty-five miles traveled in
visiting weekly or semi-monthly the gins and collating these
figures, and it is assumed that the same methods will be pur-
sued throughout the whole cotton belt of the Southland. This
will be very expensive in the aggregate for the taxpayers to
foot later on, and what is the purpose of this policy and new
departure?This looks very innocent at first view, and of no special
consequence to the producers of cotton, but if you will en-
deavor to see through this new move and the ultimate de-
signs of those very resourceful cotton manipulators and con-
spirators, urging the government to furnish this data, you
will discover that the public expense to get the figures
ever matured and inaugurated at public expense to get the
cotton at prices fixed by themselves and in advance even of
marketing same by the farmers.The census bureau at Washington may not be advised of
the results to follow the furnishing of this information.
This country imports very little cotton, and there is no
export duty on either the raw or manufactured stuff, and
hence it seems immaterial so far as the government is con-
cerned whether much or little cotton is produced. It is
known at the end of the cotton year, September 1, quite ac-
curately how many bales have passed through commercial
channels, and this ought to suffice. The purpose is some-
thing very different, and behind it all stand the schemers,
and if successful in getting this information they will be the
sole beneficiaries.The government bureau, the States, all cotton exchanges,
and a great number of merchants and individuals, commence
their estimates and guessing as to acreage and probable yield
in bales from the sowing of seed until the last bale is count-
ed, and we all know how largely they differ in ultimate re-
sults. Some will show a deficiency for the world's needs;
others will show a surplus, and in the meantime the farmers
market their crop pending this confusion of longs and shorts,
of bulls and bears.To illustrate, suppose it had been definitely known the
first of last January the size of the 1901-02 crop. The esti-
mates were from 9,000,000 to 11,500,000, and it was because
of these varying estimates that the farmers got a reasonable
price. Had it been known in January or earlier that the crop
would be about 10,500,000, the price would have dropped at
least a cents per pound. If it had been known that the crop
was only 9,500,000, the price would not have advanced.
Knowing the supply, every spinner and weaver would man-
age to get through on short time, etc. If the crop had been
11,500,000, as per some estimates, being a surplus over the
world's necessities, the price would have been so low that a
good man's dog would not have been worth a bed. Will the
cotton producers and ginners furnish the information, and
the club which is sure to be used to their detriment finan-
cially? I trust not. It is nobody's business to know in ad-
vance how much or how little cotton we each make, and
I would not allow government agents a look at my books, or
even visit my premises seeking this data.In addition to all this, if the speculator and spinner
could have, long in advance, accurate knowledge that the sup-
ply was ample, they would fix the price, and have you hold it
at your risk and expense, awaiting their pleasure, knowing
that the farmer would be forced to accept the price before an-
other crop.This whole inquisitorial procedure will eventually most
disastrously to the cotton producers if the scheme and pur-
pose are as outlined above. Just stop long enough to
think and diagnose this most innocent new move, and you
will refuse the information sought.I wish every paper in the State would read and publish,
if deemed advisable, this article, so that all ginners will see
and determine this question for themselves.F. A. GLASS,
Brazos Cotton Planter.

Monopolistic Possibilities.

The conditions we now experience should make us all
thankful that no way has yet been discovered for control by
selfish monopolists of the air we must burn in our lungs,
food, and sell it for a price. What would become of us
poor mortals then, in case of a strike? What would become of
us, would declare that the production and distribution of
air was their private business, which they had a right to con-
trol as they pleased, and if they took it into their heads that
they would not raise the wages of their workmen when a
strike was demanded, or would decrease wages in spite of pro-
tests about a point where the workmen could live decently,
what should prevent them? Great numbers of innocent per-
sons might be asphyxiated for want of air to breathe, but
the monopolists be held responsible for the short supply
of air on any terms but their own, even if the poor
were suffocating in the streets.

TAMPERING WITH TRIFLES.

By J. M. Lewis.

MAKING HAY.

There's an old peg-legged nigger over yonder cutting grass
way,
And the perfume of the herbage gently floats across the
way,
And my thoughts grow retrospective and I see as in a dream
Rolling fields of yellow stubble where the men are making
hay;
Rolling fields of yellow stubble, and I hear the harvest
sun,
Of the men who toss the wisps of hay and turn it to the
sun,
And I'm just a barefoot urchin and I inch my way along
Across the stubby yellow field with water till they're done.Once again I carry water for the sweating hired hands
Or in a corn-cob stoppered jug—my, how the vision
comes!
I tote the cider to them out across the rolling lands,
Then seek the spreading beechtree's shade and listen to the
hums
Of the swarm of insects buzzing o'er the surface of the pool,
While the soothing sound comes to me of the workers
making hay,
And I'm sprawled out in the shadows with the jug to my
cool,
While the old peg-legged nigger cuts the grass across the
way.Oh, the harvest hands are singing, and I hear their voices
come
Through the years and tears I've lived through since
I fetched the elder jug;
With my eyes half shut and dreamy I can hear the tones
hum,
And I'd like to go back to them and the loads I used to
lug;
But the yellow fields of stubble and the barefoot boy I see
Only live today in fancy, in my dreams of yesterday,
While I hear the mellow warble and the old lawn mower
buzz
Of the old peg-legged nigger cutting grass across the way.

A PROVEN FALSIFIER.

"One honest thief less," said the leader of the vigilantes
he made the rope fast, "an" he said the rope wasn't made
that," hang him.
"That's what he said," replied another of the posse, "he
it looks as if he stretched it some."

GENERALLY.

"Last night he stole a kiss,"
Said the dainty little miss;
"And now he knows I'm angry, just because of his pe-
sistence!"
But her hearer did exclaim:
"I'm afraid you were to blame."
For kisses like explosives seek the line of least resistance.

DESPERATE.

"Did you hear that Jack Higgins, who was paying me
desperate court to Miss Oldgirl Sumacash, had eloped with
pretty little Miss Morecash?"
"Gee whiz! no. What will Miss Sumacash do now?"
"The first thing she did was to send a burrump order to
the bird store for a parrot that could swear."

NO JOKE.

"Where are you taking that huge knife?"
Said Citygirl. The lad
Said: "That's Pop's cornucopier,
An' I'm takin' it to Dad."
"Don't joke with me," said Citygirl;
And frowned from where she sat;
"I don't believe a man can eat
Could cut his corns with that!"

EXCHANGE INTERVIEWS.

Another fruit of the popper is that shooting at Simons,
How long, O Texas, how long is this pistol totting to be
endured?—San Antonio Light.
It will certainly endure until awakened public sentiment
forces officers to apprehend every citizen whom they know
to be carrying a gun.Out of all the stuff he writes, M. Lewis of The Hous-
ton Post, if he knows enough, could compile a small volume
of his poems which should make him greatly more dis-
tinguished than many who, seemingly, are more dis-
tinguished than Lewis. I mean this to be complimentary,
but the Lord only knows how. The poet will take it all
if the Lord don't care any more than does the writer,
are able to hear a good deal more from Lewis.—Cleburne
Stock Farmer.Bless your crusty old heart, it is taken as a compliment,
and is especially grateful as coming from one who is usually
so chary of compliments. No one better than the poet him-
self knows how small the volume would be.An exchange says: "If there were no drug stores, there
would be many a place, what a great number of thirty-cent
there would be."—Fort Worth Mail-Telegram.
If there were no drug stores how hard it would be to
get "something else just as good."Mr. Shaw is telling the old story in Vermont that the
tariff should be revised by its friends. But Mr. Shaw